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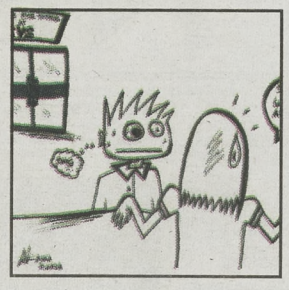

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Vol. LIX, Issue 691 www.Daily49er.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014

New Cinematic Martial Arts club kicks off

CMA says "Tricking" provides a unique to way overcome fears.

By Matt Mueller
Contributing Writer

Students in a new club on campus are combining back flips, break-dancing and martial arts to perform a new style known as "tricking."

After a year of easing administrative concerns about the physical nature of his club, junior film major Eurico Senna has finally been given the green light to begin a Cinematic Martial Arts (CMA) club.

Although there are at least five other clubs on campus that focus on martial arts, such as the Shotokan Karate Club and the Cal State Long Beach Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Club. Senna, the CMA club president, said that one thing that sets the CMA club apart from the rest is self-expression.

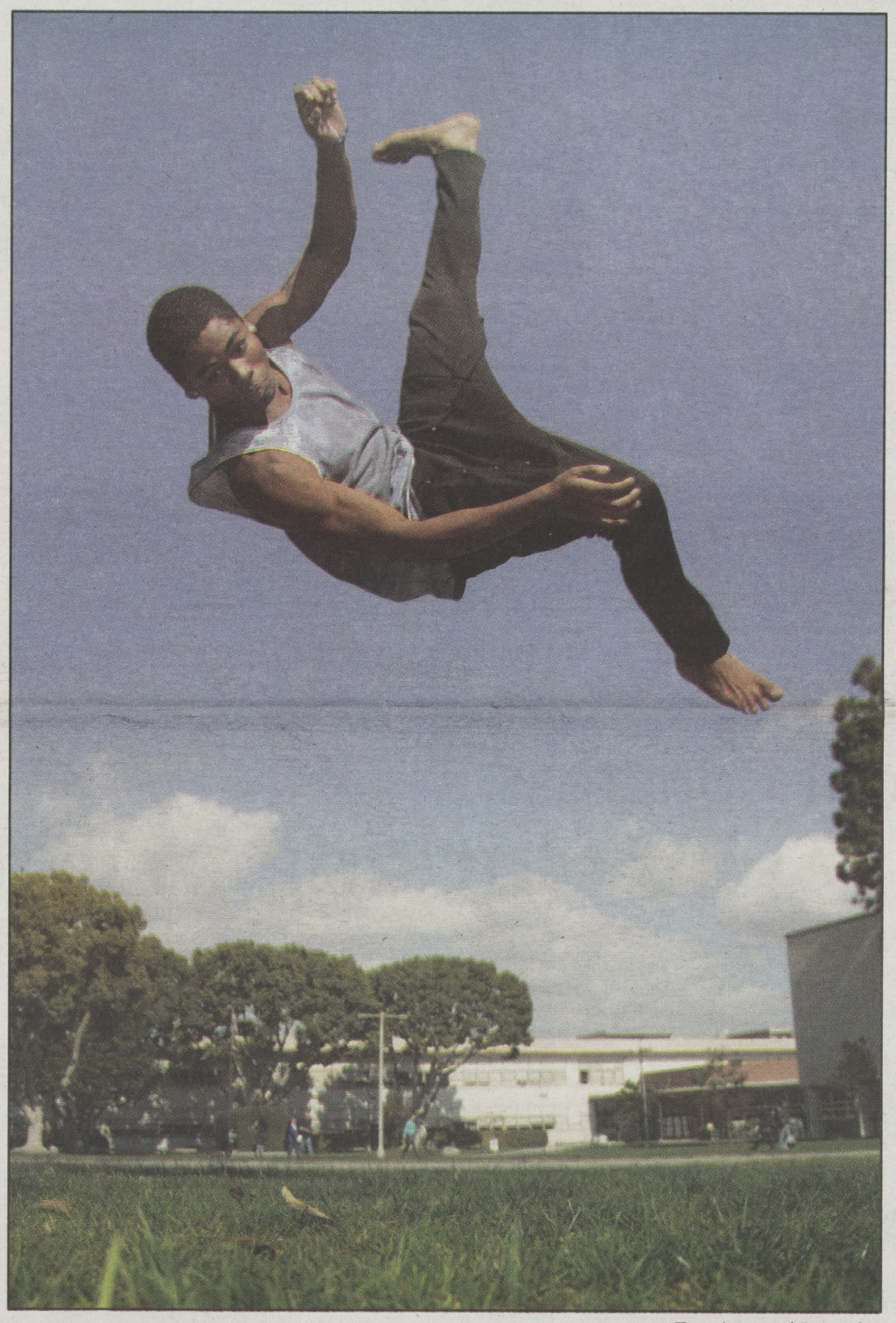
The CMA style is different because it takes several forms of martial arts and synthesizes them with break-dancing and gymnastics to produce an unconventional style, made up of grand and impractical movements, Senna said.

Senna, who practices Capoeira — a Brazilian form of martial arts that combines dance, music and acrobatics — said martial arts has been a large part of his family for several years.

It was only over the course of the past two years that Senna said he became serious about CMA, or what he likes to call "tricking."

Chris De Guzman, a senior kinesiology major and treasurer of CMA, said he joined the club when it was created.

See *CMA*, Page 2



Todd Johnson | Daily 49er
Junior photography major Antonio Allen does a back flip during a Cinematic Martial Arts Club practice on upper campus Wednesday afternoon.

CSULB, LBCC to help AB540 Students

The schools are partnering with multi-million dollar scholarship program.

By Paula Esparza
Contributing Writer

Officials at Cal State Long Beach and Long Beach City College announced their partnership with TheDream.US, a national program that provides thousands of undocumented immigrants with college scholarships.

CSULB Associate Vice President of Legislative and External Relations Terri Carbaugh said she met with the founders of TheDream.US in Washington, D.C. Tuesday to finalize the partnership.

According to the TheDream.US website, CSULB and LBCC were chosen by the program due to their high graduation rates and diverse student populations.

Carbaugh said the goal of the partnership is to help undocumented students who lack the financial resources needed to continue their education.

"It is very important that we give all our students an equal opportunity that other [students] might have over them," Carbaugh said. "This scholarship will give those students the same chance that their other peers have and help ensure their timely graduation."

Under Assembly Bill 540, which was signed into law in 2001, eligible

See *Dream*, Page 2

Twenty-five years before Conoley, another woman led CSULB

June Cooper served as interim president in Spring 1988.

By Daniel Serrano
Editor in Chief

Alyssa Whitley-Cooper, a senior women's, gender and sexuality studies major, was walking through the University Student Union one morning when she saw an article about Jane Close Conoley, Cal State Long Beach's new president.

But after opening the paper, it's what wasn't in the story that got her thinking.

"I read the story and I thought, 'That's awesome, [Conoley] really seems like a great person,'" Whitley-Cooper said. "And then I thought, 'But wait a second, my grandma was in there somewhere.'"

Whitley-Cooper is the granddaughter of June Cooper, former Cal State University executive vice chancellor and chief of staff. Before working in the Chancellor's Office, though, Cooper served as CSULB's interim president during the spring of 1988.

It was the first time a woman had ever run the university, and according to Julia D. Whitley, Cooper's daughter and a CSULB alumna, it was a big deal.

"The fact that a woman in general had been put into this position that no other woman had ever been put in before, and not just a woman but a woman of color, a minority … for the City of Long Beach in 1988, that was huge," Whitley said. "It's hard for us to hear that she's forgotten."

See *Cooper*, Page 3

June Cooper

Courtesy of Julia Whitley

CMA

Continued from Page 1

He said he grew up idolizing the movies of Jackie Chan and other "trickers" such as Joe Eigo, Steve Terada, and Xin Sarith.

"What started out as a dream to copy what I saw in movies and YouTube finally became a reality when I joined CMA," Guzman said.

> **"What started out as a dream to copy what I saw in movies and YouTube finally became a reality when I joined CMA."**
>
> *— Chris De Guzman, Treasurer of CMA*

Senna said he and his friends got the idea to form a "tricking" team while they were hanging out at a park one day.

Though the club just started this semester, Guzman said the CMA style has proved to be a popular form of expression.

"The past year or so we've been getting a huge wave of members who are interested in 'tricking,'" Guzman said.

The club offers members the chance to conquer their fears by providing them with a supportive environment. Senna said fear is what holds people back: fear of failure, fear of embarrassment, fear of anything.

"Tricking is a wonderfully unique way of dominating fear," Senna said.

Senna said the club also hopes to perform during halftime at a CSULB basketball show soon.

"Our eventual goal is to have a thriving community of 'trickers,' interested in seeking personal improvement in the sport," Senna said. "And in the process, we would love to get some CSULB community members from our CMA club to eventually do a performance for a basketball game to let the world know about 'tricking.'"

The CMA club practices every Friday and Sunday from noon to 3 p.m. and Monday from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Kinesiology building, Room 64. Members must pay a $15 fee per semester. For more information, visit CMA's Facebook at CSULB CMA Club.

Todd Johnson | Daily 49er

Cinematic Martial Arts Club President and junior film major Eurico Senna practices tricks on upper campus Wednesday afternoon.

Dream

Continued from Page 1

undocumented students are allowed to pay in-state tuition at public college and universities, according to the AB540 website.

In fall 2013, there were 650 AB540 students at CSULB and 251 at LBCC.

To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must be eligible recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), an initiative that protects its recipients from deportation for two years as long as they meet the requirements, according to the website.

Students who receive the scholarship must maintain a 3.0 GPA and finish their degree on time in order to keep their eligibility, according to the TheDream.Us website.

Students pursuing a bachelor's degree receive $25,000 on average, and have up to six years to complete their degree. Those pursuing an associate degree have three years to graduate and receive $12,500 on average, according to the website.

TheDream.US will provide 2,000 eligible students with $25 million in scholarships, which will help them finish their college careers at one of the 12 partnered colleges throughout California, Florida, Washington, Texas and New York, according to the website.

Senior psychology major Esenia Jimenez, who is one of the few in her family who are documented, said she believes the development of such programs will help encourage undocumented students to pursue a degree.

"This is really cool," Jimenez said. "More opportunities [are] arising for people who didn't have many options a few years back and have had a history of financial problems."

LBCC student Brandon Richards agrees that the partnership is a step in the right direction.

"I think it's a good thing for those who can't afford school [and] are working to obtain their degrees," Richards said. "They need the support … especially if the student [wants] to succeed in life."

The deadline to apply for TheDream.US scholarship is March 31. Those who are interested in applying can visit TheDream.US for more details.

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CVS to remove tobacco products from pharmacies by October

CVS Caremark Corp.'s imminent exit from the cigarette and tobacco business, an unprecedented move for a major pharmacy company, is being cheered by many medical professionals and lawmakers as a triumph of corporate responsibility over the bottom line.

But industry experts say the strategy shift is less an altruistic endeavor than a savvy marketing ploy from a drugstore giant trying to promote itself as a retail health hub in an age of increasingly self-serve health care.

"It's smart business on CVS' part," said Carl Tobias, a law professor at the University of Richmond in Virginia, a state steeped in tobacco history.

The drugstore chain, the largest in the country with $123 billion in revenue in 2012, said Wednesday that it will be tobacco-free by Oct. 1. CVS has more than 7,600 stores, making it second in retail locations only to Walgreens.

The move came soon after the 50th anniversary of a landmark report from the surgeon general linking smoking to illnesses such as lung cancer and heart disease. Pharmacies have faced years of criticism from health advocates for juxtaposing tobacco items with medical products.

Former smoker President Barack Obama applauded CVS, saying the company "sets a powerful example" and that its decision "will have a profoundly positive impact on the health of our country." He added that the strategy shift will aid his administration's efforts to reduce tobacco-related deaths and illnesses while also bringing down health-care costs.

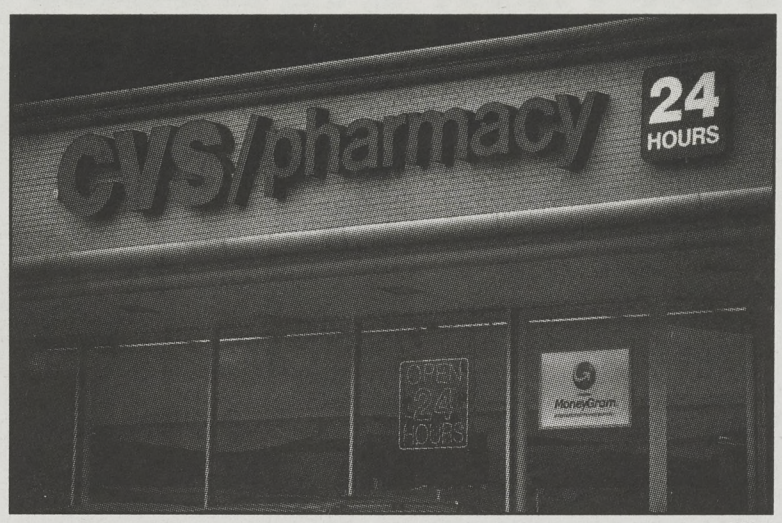
CVS said that it is sacrificing $2 billion in annual revenue in this endeavor, which it said also includes a "robust national smoking cessation program" to begin this spring. But the drugstore chain also has much to gain.

Amid a shortage of primary care doctors and legislation that expands access to health care coverage, CVS and many of its competitors are investing in more in-store urgent care clinics. They're also featuring pharmacists who can offer medical counseling and extending outreach efforts to clinicians and medical centers.

More Americans are seeking self-service options at local retailers providing a growing suite of services and products made cheaper and simpler by improving technology, said Columbia Business School professor Rita McGrath.

"In today's fast-moving, competitive market, retailers are taking their resources from declining categories like cigarettes, where there's a lot of cost associated with securing the products and checking people's ages, and putting them into growth areas that involve health and services," she said.

Retail establishments such as CVS, Walgreens and Rite Aid operate more than 1,600 health centers, according to a report Wednesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association. The report was written by Dr. Troyen A. Brennan, CVS's chief medical officer, and Dr. Steven A. Schroeder, who runs the Smoking Cessation Leadership Center at UC San Francisco.



MCT

"Making cigarettes available in pharmacies in essence 'renormalizes' the product by sending the subtle message that it cannot be all that unhealthy if it is available for purchase where medicines are sold," they wrote.

But by renouncing cigarettes, CVS could end up engendering loyalty among customers, some experts said.

— Tiffany Hsu, Noam L. Levey and Soumya Karlamangla, Tribune Washington Bureau

COOPER

Continued from Page 1

CSU spokesman Mike Uhlenkamp said that, while in office, an interim president and president have the same responsibilities. The difference lies in their role; whereas an interim president is picked for his or her knowledge of a university and how it functions, a permanent president is expected to push the university into new territory.

"In general, you think of [an interim president as] someone that is maintaining the continuity of the university," he said. "They are filling that void for a limited time. For the president, you want someone that is going to be able to come in and establish [his or her] vision," Uhlenkamp said.

To the people and papers of the time, Whitley said, the difference wasn't important. Whitley has amassed two photo albums full of articles from local papers about the importance of her mother's role.

"I know that the process for how [interim presidents and presidents] are nominated or appointed is different," she said. "However, the way that the papers were celebrating my mother, the way that they put it was so powerful at the time in 1988 that it didn't matter."

Cooper, who worked at CSULB for 25 years, joined the Department of Communicative Disorders in 1966 and gradually worked her way up through a number of academic and administrative positions.

During her time as interim president, Cooper designated Room 165 in the Faculty Office 4 building as CSULB's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Center — a hub that is still in use more than 25 years later.

Interim President Donald Para said he was chair of the music department when he first met Cooper. Cooper's time as interim president had just ended and Curtis McCray, the fourth CSULB president, had just begun what would become a five-year tenure.

Para said it was also during this time that the university was transitioning from a heavy-handed administration to a collaborative one, and was on the brink of a financial crisis, which was second only to recent budget cuts.

In the middle of it all was Cooper.

"She was a tough person for the right reasons," Para said. "She had a sense of right and wrong, and if you were doing wrong, she was going to tell you about it and she wasn't going to mince any words."

Para said Cooper had a "guardian" role on campus that made her very popular and highly regarded.

"I had a lot of respect for her," he said.

Cooper's work in the CSU and the community earned her the National Conference for Community Justice Humanitarian Award and a Woman of the Year Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, according to the CSULB website.

Whitley said that she and her family are not angry, they just don't want a part of CSULB's history to be forgotten.

"None of us are upset," Whitley said. "I don't want to overshadow this new president. I would just hate for the things my mother did do for the university to go unnoticed."

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OUR VIEW: CVS MAKES AN INTERESTING MARKETING MOVE

On Wednesday, CVS Caremark announced it would stop selling tobacco products at all locations across the country.

CVS is expected to pull all tobacco products off the shelves by October.

CVS Caremark is the country's largest drugstore chain in overall sales, according to an article in the New York Times.

The company said it's decided to stop selling tobacco products because CVS is largely a healthcare provider, rather than solely a retail business.

"We have about 26,000 pharmacists and nurse practitioners helping patients manage chronic problems like high cholesterol, high blood pressure and heart disease, all of which are linked to smoking," said CVS Chief Executive Larry J. Merlo to the NY Times. "We came to the decision that cigarettes and providing healthcare just don't go together in the same setting."

As a result, the company is estimated to lose $2 billion in sales from tobacco products and items related to "smoking," according to the NY Times.

President Barack Obama and former mayor of New York, Michael Bloomberg, openly praised CVS on its move to create a healthier image.

What we find confusing is that CVS claims to be trying to create an image based on healthcare, but if that's the case, why don't they pull all non-healthcare related items from the shelves?

CVS Caremark currently sells a variety of alcoholic beverages, high caloric snacks, soft drinks and infomercial products that have nothing to do with healthcare at all.

We think that pulling tobacco products from its shelves to elevate their healthcare standard is a good thing, but to continue the sales of other non-healthcare related items is a bit contradictory.

In theory, this is all good news for CVS and overall healthcare in the U.S., but we're a little skeptical about the real motives behind CVS' attempt at rebranding its image.

It seems more like a marketing tactic than anything else.

The $2 billion loss in tobacco sales may easily be made up by the increase in flu shots and other services that CVS will expand on.

It is speculated that pharmacy's may begin to compete with hospitals by offering testing and diagnostics at lower prices, according to an article in Forbes Magazine.

Additionally, the Affordable Care Act is bringing a larger influx of consumers to drugstore retailers for flu shots and other ailments, due to the shortage of primary care doctors.

Not to mention, Obama's endorsement of CVS' decision is some of the best advertising it could hope for.

After October, smokers will just have to mosey on down to one of the hundreds of other tobacco retailers.

got opinions?

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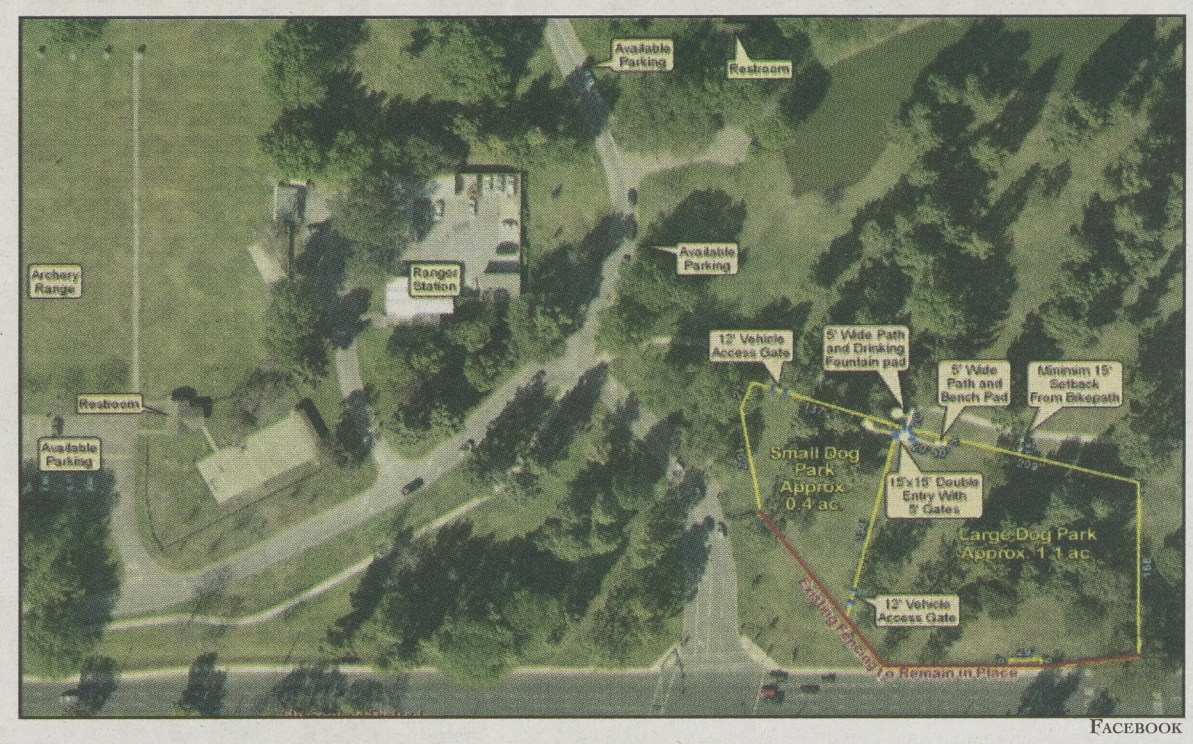
Dogs move in, leaving local ducks pondless in El Dorado Park

By Paige Pelonis
Contributing Writer



Facebook

If your living space were suddenly cut in half to make room for the arrival of large numbers of loud, flea-ridden guests, would you relocate?

A number of assorted birds, long-time residents in Long Beach's El Dorado Regional Park East, might do just that in response to the opening of the newly completed dog park.

At least 50 dogs of all shapes and sizes stampeded into the new park as local residents and hopeful politicians gathered for its official opening last Saturday at 10 a.m.

The noise of the barking from the unleashed dogs alone was enough to drive the ducks and geese away.

Combine the barking of the unleashed dogs with the imposition of easily didstracted children stomping all over the banks, and what was left was an empty duck pond for the entire second half of the day.

Of course, duck displacement is not a major issue, but as a lifetime Long Beach local, I find myself bitter at the thought of the El Dorado ducks abandoning this area of the park.

Yes, the rest of the park will most likely remain populated with birds and ducks, but I would still be pretty annoyed if a small piece of my home became off limits.

The park's opening was facilitated, in large part, by funds designated by Long Beach City Councilwoman and mayoral candidate Gerrie Schipske.

It might be a tad dramatic to put it this way, but nothing says political agenda like the dog-eat-dog world that has long-been the land ownership conflict in America.

On that note, isn't it convenient that the completion date for this project happened to fall smack dab in the middle of campaign season?

With the large turnout Saturday, Schipske couldn't have planned a better location for a "Schipske for Mayor" promotion table.

Why was this section of the park chosen? In an article in the Press Telegram, Schipske said "What we have is something really nice in an area of the park that wasn't being used for anything."

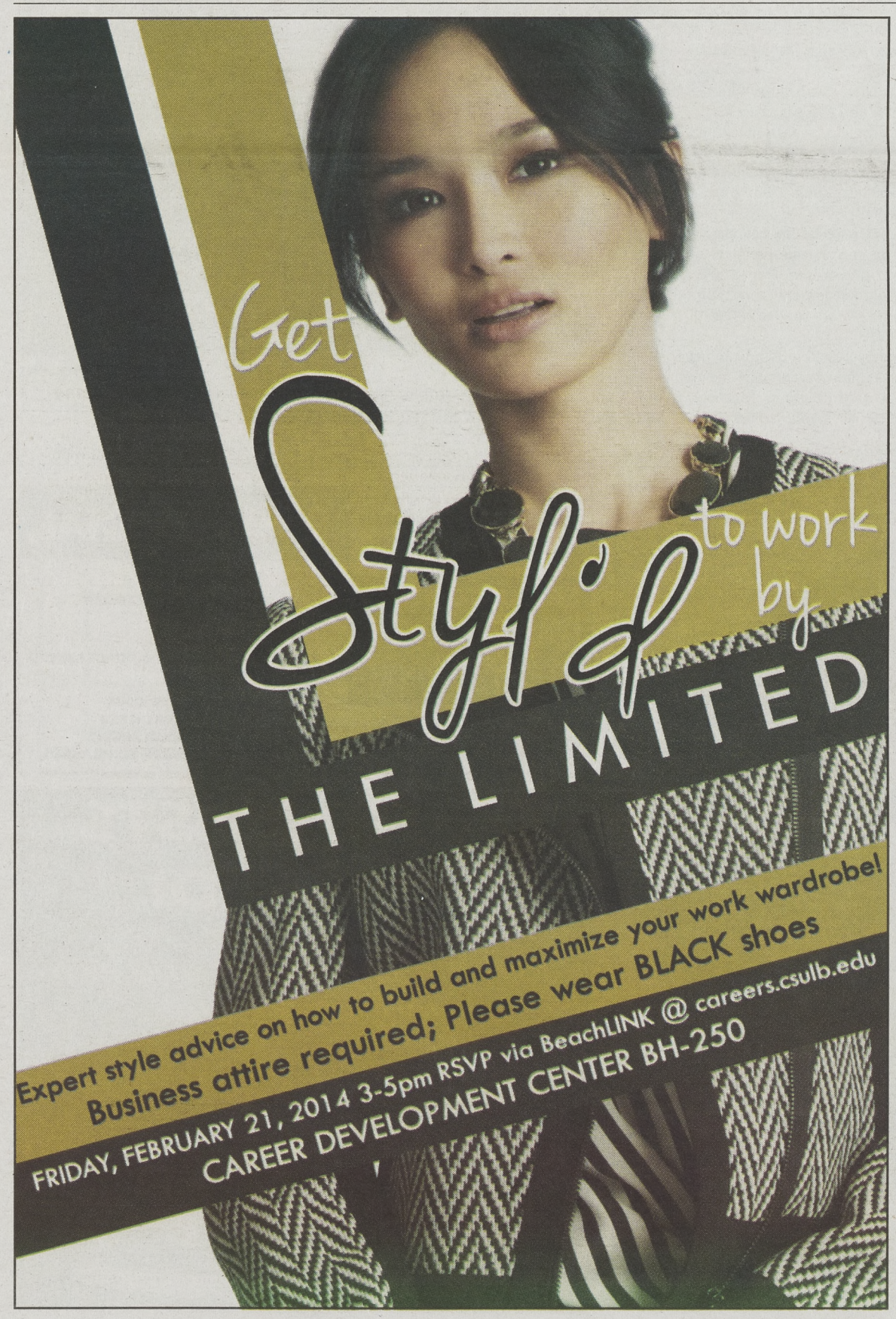
'Not being used for anything?' I think a park full of ducks and geese would disagree with this oversight, as they have inhabited this area of the park for as long as I can remember.

Alas, dogs are house pets, and wherever pets go, their owners go. This means the leaders of the project may also benefit if the park remains highly-populated with dogs, puppies and their owners — Long Beach residents and coincidentally, voters.

Long-standing signs around the duck pond make it no secret that Animal Control Services would prefer park guests to refrain from feeding the ducks. But what Long Beach native hasn't spent an afternoon or two tossing bread crumbs into the pond?

Perhaps two birds were killed with one stone with the opening of the dog park. Animal Control was indeed present for this event, among other local community groups and officials.

Is it too much to say local politics might not be all they are "quacked" up to be?



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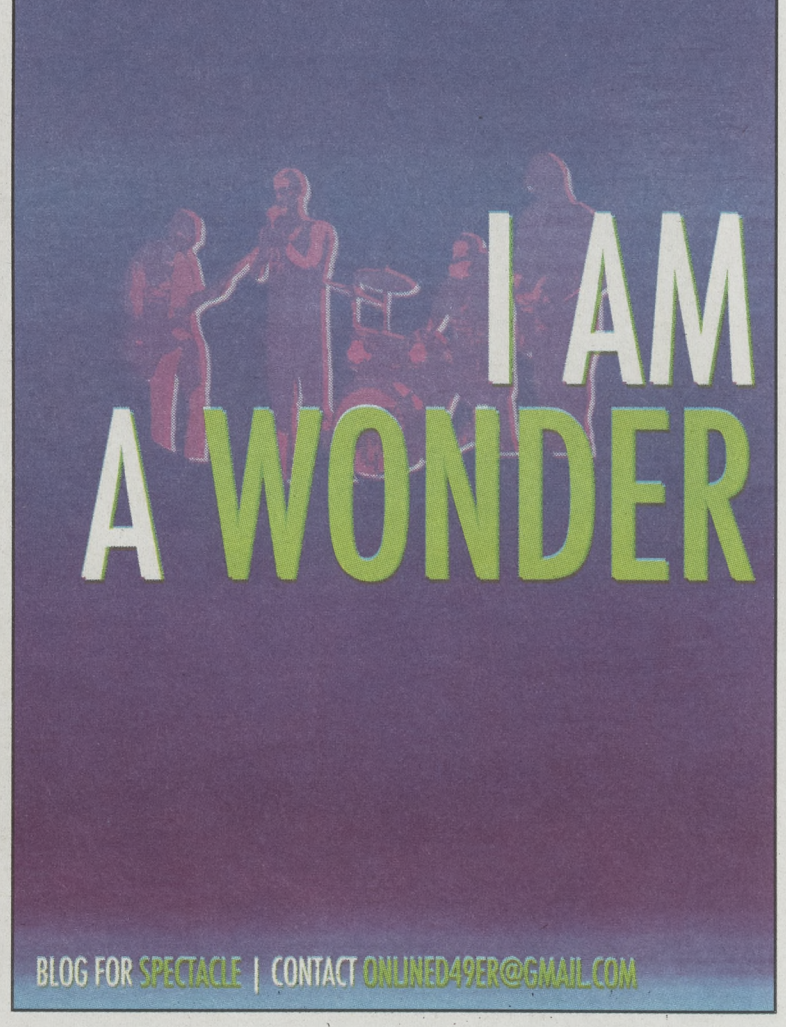


BLOG FOR SPECTACLE | CONTACT ONLINED49ER@GMAIL.COM

The chronicles of moustache

Sporting a classic handlebar moustache, John Ciulik documents the tiny accidents that comprise his life.

By Danielle Carson
Diversions Editor

It has grown significantly over the past year. As he speaks, your eyes can't help but drift down from his eyes. In between phrases, he periodically strokes it, pinching it between his fingers to maintain the perfect fluff-to-curl ratio.

John Ciulik is the man behind the friendliest, best-known moustache on campus. As part of a "365 project" that he started one year ago today, Ciulik documents his daily life with photos of his moustache, meant to symbolize and satirize the unexpected, yet beautiful accident that is life.

He said the ordinary track of his life has set the ideal conditions for his project to thrive. The seven-year College of the Arts employee and American studies graduate student has taken more than 5,000 photos of his moustache since last February, choosing his favorite of the multiples he takes each day.

"There's this old saying, that if you hang around a barber shop long enough, eventually you're going to get a haircut," Ciulik said. "With my involvement with [COTA] and the crossover with the art students and art history majors … I just kind of got interested in how a narrative was built."

He started growing his current mustache in August 2012, but throughout his 30s, he said he has had many different forms of facial hair, from sideburns to beards.

"There was always a sense of hipster irony, although I've been accused of that, I'm not a hipster," he said. "I started it. They just followed me."

Aside from his eating soup and having to cut his sandwiches in quarters, Ciulik said the moustache project started off as a sort of endurance game.

He said he almost shaved it off after a month, but a friend convinced him that it was worth it. Now, he gels it up in a clean handlebar style, sometimes straightening the ends for more of an "Englishman" moustache.

Ciulik can usually be found talking to students, taking pictures and handing out "@todaysmoustache" limited edition buttons.

"Throughout the year, there are highs and lows and you see this in the moustache," Ciulik said.

On some days, the moustache in his photo is perfect, and some days it's droopy or frizzy.

Moustaches have re-surged significantly in American culture, which is part of Ciulik's philosophy. Stores sell moustache apparel, and young men admire the classic masculinity from the days of Teddy Roosevelt, wishing that they, too, could grow cookie dusters.

"There is an American fascination with facial hair," Ciulik said. He thinks young men should not worry about their sparse 'staches just yet, as his moustache didn't grow thick until he was in his 30s.

Ciulik has done some work with local moustache advocacy groups and promoted some of Movember's fundraising events, acting as a role model for young adults aspiring to contribute to the cause with their own bushy handlebar or Fu Manchu.

While the moustache is popular and fun, he said there is a dark side to the interpretation of the moustache project.

The direction of society is always uncertain, just as the growth of the moustache is. This uncertainty seen in everything is reflected by the moustache right under Ciulik's nose.

"Originally I was only going to do this for one year but now I'm going to extend it," Ciulik said. "It's a narrative forming accidentally on its own, so now I'm going to keep it going."

Season two begins today, and Ciulik said he is looking forward to where his moustache will take him.

"It could be deep or it could be nothing, and I will seek the unintentional accident of it," Ciulik said.

He said that being surrounded by hopeful and optimistic young adults on campus has added more substance to his mission.

The future has, and always will be unpredictable, but we know that there are infinite directions in which to grow, he said.

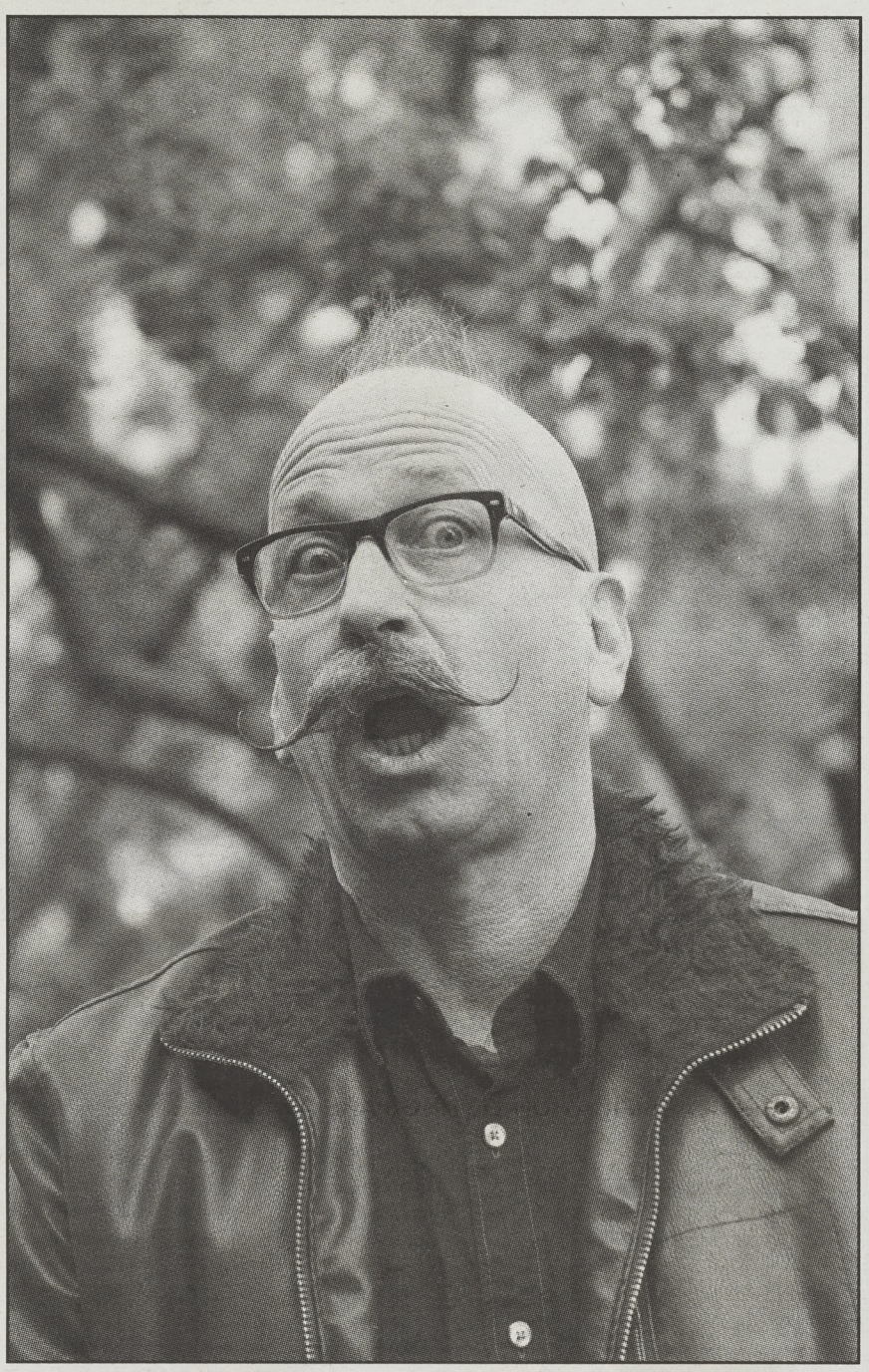
"Society shares both redundant and ecstatic experiences, yet it is necessary to relish the little joys," Ciulik said.

In his case, this is done with the smile-like curl of his moustache.

"We are here on this planet and we don't really know why," Ciulik said as he paused with his blue eyes wide and sparkling. "So grow a moustache!"

In celebration of the completion of season one and the premiere of the upcoming season, Ciulik spent time with friends and fans alike with a few glasses of wine at the 4th Street Vine.

Those interested in following his moustache adventures can check him out on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter via @todaysmoustache.



Danielle Carson | Daily 49er

John Ciulik and his moustache have garnered a social media following over the past year, and the second season starts today.

did you know the daily 49er has a youtube channel?

YOUTUBE.COM/VIDEOD49ER

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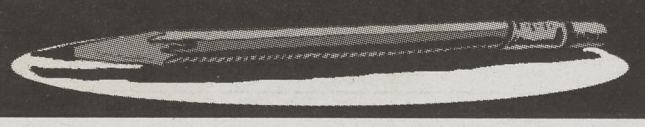

27 LEGAL SERVICES

Legal Concerns? On-Campus consultation with private attorney (562)481-5884 **Michael Lindley** Esq.

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Month:

AUG.		SEPT.		OCT.		NOV.
DEC.		JAN.		FEB.		MAR.
APR.		MAY		JUNE		JULY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

BIG WEST STANDINGS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

	CONF.	OVR.
UC Irvine	7-2	16-9
UC Santa Barbara	6-2	15-6
LONG BEACH STATE	6-3	10-13
Hawaii	5-4	16-7
Cal Poly	4-5	8-14
Cal State Northridge	4-6	12-13
UC Riverside	3-6	8-15
UC Davis	3-6	8-16
Cal State Fullerton	2-6	7-15

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

	CONF.	OVR.
Cal Poly	8-1	14-8
Cal State Northridge	7-3	11-13
LONG BEACH STATE	5-4	13-10
Hawaii	5-4	11-10
UC Irvine	5-4	12-11
UC Davis	5-4	10-12
Cal State Fullerton	4-4	8-13
UC Santa Barbara	1-7	6-15
UC Riverside	0-9	4-18

WOMEN'S TENNIS

	CONF.	OVR.
LONG BEACH STATE	2-0	5-1
Cal State Northridge	1-0	3-0
Hawaii	1-1	2-6
UC Davis	0-0	2-2
UC Irvine	0-0	2-3
UC Santa Barbara	0-0	1-5
UC Riverside	0-0	0-6
Cal Poly	0-1	2-2
Cal State Fullerton	0-2	1-5

WOMEN'S WATER POLO

	CONF.	OVR.
UC Irvine	0-0	9-3
Cal State Northridge	0-0	7-3
Hawaii	0-0	4-2
LONG BEACH STATE	0-0	5-4
UC Davis	0-0	5-5
UC Santa Barbara	0-0	4-7

MPSF STANDINGS

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

	CONF.	OVR.
BYU	8-1	8-3
UCLA	7-1	10-2
Pepperdine	6-2	6-2
Hawaii	5-3	7-4
LONG BEACH STATE	5-3	6-3
UC Santa Barbara	5-3	6-3
USC	5-4	6-4
Stanford	4-4	7-4
UC Irvine	4-6	7-8
Cal State Northridge	3-5	3-6
Cal Baptist	2-6	3-7
Pacific	1-7	2-9
UC San Diego	0-10	0-11

WINTER OLYMPICS

MEDAL STANDINGS

COUNTRY	TOTAL	G-S-B
Canada	7	3-3-1
Netherlands	7	3-2-2
Norway	7	2-1-4
Russia	6	1-2-3
United States	5	2-0-3
Austria	3	1-2-0
Czech Republic	3	0-2-1
Germany	2	2-0-0
France	2	1-0-1
Sweden	2	0-2-0
Italy	2	0-1-1
Three Tied	1	1-0-0
Three Tied	1	0-1-0
Two Tied	1	0-0-1

TODD JOHNSON | DAILY 49ER

Members of the Long Beach State softball team huddle during a game against Kent State on Saturday. The 49ers went on to lose, 3-2.

SECOND SHOT

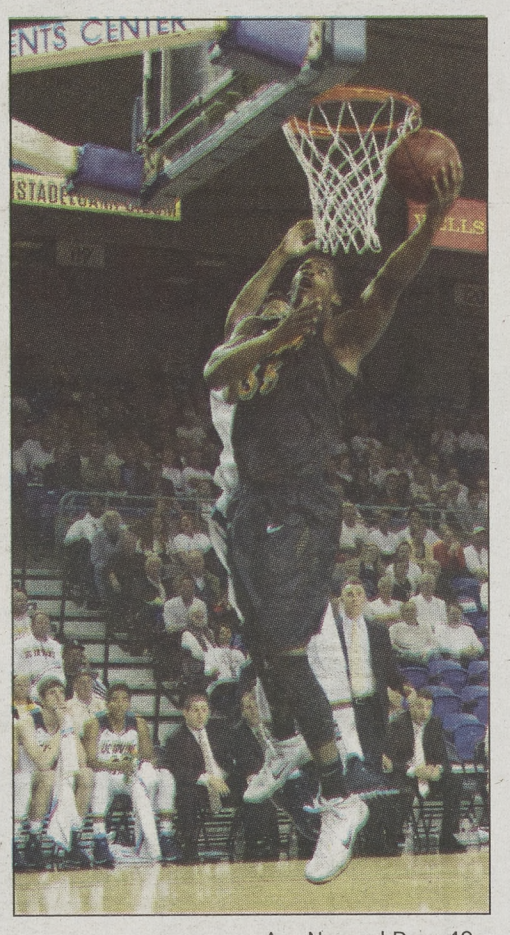
The best sports photos from the weekend that didn't fit into Monday's paper.

YIPIN CAI | DAILY 49ER

Above: Ebba Unden prepares to return a ball from a San Jose State opponent.

MICHAEL ARES | DAILY 49ER

Left: Jewelyn Sawyer (13) looks to pass during LBSU's win over UC Riverside.



ANH NGUYEN | DAILY 49ER

Above: Dan Jennings goes in for a layup during Thursday's 61-58 loss at UC Irvine.

10 THINGS we learned from sports this weekend

JASON CLARK
Sports Editor

1 For the United States, the Sochi Olympics won't be what Vancouver was. With Bode Miller failing to medal in the men's downhill and Hannah Kearney settling for bronze in the women's mogul, it's clear that luck isn't on the Americans' side in the same way it was in Vancouver four years ago.

2 It wasn't just the media hotel accomodations that Sochi wasn't prepared for. The fifth Olympic ring failing to light up and expand in the opening ceremonies added to Russia's ever-growing list of shortcomings.

3 Despite the well-publicized deficiencies in the Olympic experience, Russia does deserve credit for avoiding a terrorist attack so far.

4 Social media and push notifications have completely ruined the suspense factor of NBC's television coverage of the Olympics. We no longer watch to find out *what* happened, we watch to find out *how* it happened.

5 NBC isn't resisting the change either. If you download the mobile app, you can get push notifications for medal results after events happen. Basically, you wake up to a bunch of medal results and then watch how everything happened that night.

6 In non-Olympic news, having "smart" in your name doesn't necessarily make you intelligent. Case in point: Oklahoma State's Marcus Smart, who pushed a fan at a Texas Tech game over the weekend. How much Smart was provoked or however much the fan deserved it is irrelevant — that was a dumb move.

7 Marcus Smart has a new best friend. His name is...

8 Michael Sam. The Missouri defensive end and NFL prospect is possibly the bravest man in sports right now, (closely followed by those about to compete in skeleton at the Olympics) after he came out of the closet. Not to make light of Sam's announcement, but there was only one thing that could make Smart's actions move out of the top story slot, and this was it.

9 There is still a culture of resistance toward homesexuality in parts of the NFL, mostly in administrative positions. Among the plentiful supportive reactions to Sam's annoucement were a couple homophobic ones, conveniently from unnamed front office personnel.

10 There was enough positive reaction and support for Sam out there to prove that football has opened its mind enough to accept openly gay players. I didn't see a single player post a negative reaction, and everything I've read said that Sam's teammates at Missouri were very accepting as well. Like most change, it starts with younger generations and filters up. This appears to be no different.